610.5
A77

ARMY MEDICAL LIBRARY

# NEWS

VOL. III, NO. 6 APRIL 1948

ISSUED FROM THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

## APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR

Major Frank B. Rogers, Medical Corps, U. S. Army, has been appointed Special Assistant to the Director, Army Medical Library, and reported for duty on 1 March 1948.

Major Rogers received his A.B. degree at Yale, his M.D. degree at Ohio State University, and interned at Letterman General Hospital in San Francisco. He entered the military service in 1943, his first assignment being to the faculty of the Medical Field Service School, Carlisle Barracks, Pa. During the war he served overseas in the Pacific Theater of Operations, in the Luzon Campaign, as Ward Surgeon, 25th Medical Battalion, 25th Infantry Division, and as Surgeon of the 3d Battalion, 35th Infantry Regiment, 25th Division. After going to Japan, he was Division Surgeon of the 25th Infantry Division.

Major Rogers returned to the United States in September 1947 and served briefly at Walter Reed General Hospital before coming to the Army Medical Library.

## END PAPERS FOR AML BOOKS

A sample is inclosed of the distinctive identifying end papers to be used in the Army Medical Library books bound or rebound at the Government Printing Office. This is the result of a suggestion by Miss Helen Turnbull, Head of the Binding Section of the Catalog Division. In the design of the end papers is the caduceus, the insignia of the Army Medical Corps, printed in maroon the Army Medical Department color.

It is estimated that by the use of these end papers about $1,000 will be saved on the first 20,000 volumes bound or rebound. Thereafter the saving will be even greater.

The engraved book plate will still be used in the new books bought and received by the Army Medical Library.

## BILLINGS EXHIBIT AT LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

The Exhibit-of-the-Week for March 6-12 at the entrance to the main reading room, Library of Congress, commemorated the 35th anniversary of the death of John Shaw Billings. On display was the *Specimen Fasciculus* issued by Billings in Washington in 1876 as the prospectus of the *Index-Catalogue* of the Library of the Surgeon General's Office, the great medical bibliography which is now in its fourth series and its fifty-seventh volume.

## AML BILLINGS EXHIBIT

A fifth exhibit in the series Famous Men of Army Medicine has for its subject Colonel John Shaw Billings, Medical Corps, under whose leadership for thirty years (1865-1895) the Army Medical Library grew from a little more than 1,000 volumes to 307,455 volumes and pamphlets and 4,335 portraits of physicians.

Entering the Army in 1861, Dr. Billings' four years of active service in camps and hospitals were crowned with the reward of a brevet Lieutenant Colonelcy in the Regular Army and the position of Medical Inspector of the Army of the Potomac. In the great battles of the war, Chancellorsville and Gettysburg, as an operating surgeon, he performed many operations of major character. He was the first surgeon in the war to attempt with success the unusual operation of excision of the ankle joint, which had been done only two or three times before in the history of surgery.

It is said of Billings that the three great things in his life after the war were the development of the Surgeon General's Library and its catalogues, the planning of the Johns Hopkins Hospital, and the Directorship of the New York Public Library. The work upon which his name and fame most securely rest is the *Index-Catalogue* of the Library of the Surgeon General's Office, but in his long and fruitful career there were many other chosen fields of activity—medical bibliography, hospital construction, hygiene and sanitary engineering, vital and medical statistics, and the advancement of medical education and medical literature.

In acknowledgment of the value of his work in science, Dr. Billings received numerous honorary degrees and active or honorary membership in many medical and scientific societies. During World War II an Army general hospital at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana, bore his name.

## APPOINTMENT OF DIVISION CHIEFS

Mrs. Eleanor M. Coffyn, who has been Acting Chief of the Division for the past year, was appointed Chief of the Reference Division, Army Medical Library, on March 7, 1948. Mrs. Coffyn joined the Library staff in January 1946 and has served as a Reference Assistant and as Head of the Reference Section.

Mrs. Coffyn received her library training (B.S., 1927) at Simmons College, Boston, and first served as a general assistant at Clark University Library, Worcester, Mass. During the period 1929 to 1943, she served as Cataloger at the Library of the Hispanic Society of America in New York City and on the staffs of the Boston Medical Library and the City Library of Lowell, Mass., her position at the latter institution being that of Assistant Librarian and, later, Acting Librarian.

Mrs. Coffyn was graduated from the U. S. Midshipmens School, WR, at Northampton, Mass., in October 1943, and commissioned an Ensign in the WAVES. She served in the Navy, later being promoted to the grade of Lieutenant (j. g.), until she joined the Army Medical Library Staff.

Mr. Joseph A. Groesbeck, formerly Chief of the Acquisitions Department, Detroit Public Library, was appointed Chief of the Acquisition Division, Army Medical Library, on April 1, 1948.

Mr. Groesbeck attended Wayne University, Detroit, Mich., where he received his A.B. degree in 1933 and his M.A. degree in 1936. In 1941 he received his post graduate degree in Library Science from the University of Michigan.

Mr. Groesbeck began his library career at the Detroit Public Library, where he served as Superintendent of the Newspaper Reading Room from March 1936 to June 1937. Later he joined the staff of the University of Michigan Library, where he served as Circulation Assistant, Superintendent of the Undergraduate Reading Room, and as Assistant Superintendent of the Reading Room, in turn.

Mr. Groesbeck entered the Army in 1942 and served both in this country and in the European Theater of Operations. Upon his return to civilian life and to his library career, he rejoined the staff of the Detroit Public Library, serving as Research Assistant and Chief of the Acquisitions Department. In 1946 he was granted

leave of absence to join the Library of Congress Mission to Germany, serving as Deputy Chief of the Mission during the period March to October 1946.

## LECTURE BY DR. SCHULLIAN

Dr. Dorothy M. Schullian, Curator of Rare Books, History of Medicine Division, gave a slide lecture in Italian at the meeting of "Il Cenacola di Cleveland" on March 16, 1948. She illustrated her subject—"Vecchie Illustrazioni Anatomiche"—with slides made from illustrations in the Division's rare book collection. Despite the high percentage of skeletons and other sombre pictures, the lecture was enlivened with many humorous comments and presented a survey, at once entertaining and instructive, of the historical development of anatomical science over some seven centuries.

## CURRENT LIST INDEXES

The August Index to the Current List of Medical Literature was published early in March and it is anticipated that the September-October Index will be ready for distribution by the middle of April.

## ACQUISITIONS

Exchange lots received from abroad include 37 Polish theses from Glowna Biblioteka Lekarska (Central Medical Library) in Warsaw; 73 monographs from Riksdagbiblioteket, Stockholm; and over a hundred monographs from the Turkish Ministry of Health in Ankara.

A copy of the new second edition of Giulio Casalini's *Dizionario di medicina,* published in Torino, has just been received from the Library's Italian dealer.

Among notable new serials, the Library has received:

The Cord, the journal of the Paraplegic Branch of the British Legion. Aylesbury, Bucks, England. Vol. 1, nos. 1 and 2, Autumn, Winter, 1947-1948.

The Journal of clinical pathology, edited for the Association of Clinical Pathologists. London. Vol. 1, no. 1, Nov. 1947.

Pediatrics, the journal of the American Academy of Pediatrics, Inc. Springfield, Ill. Vol. 1, no. 1, Jan. 1948.

World Health Organization. Bulletin. N. Y. Vol. 1, no. 1, 1947-1948.

ny,
to

of
of
her
ade
the
ure
sur-
lop-

ture
em-
e of

eses
in
and
alth

*ario*
the

itish
d 2,

n of
947.
rics,

o. 1,